

News Advisory

Updated Information for Harmful Cyanobacteria Bloom at Lake Shasta; Caution Urged for Some Water Contact Activities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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REDDING – Recent tests for a potentially toxic blue green algae strain indicate that additional areas of Lake Shasta are testing positive for toxins produced by the cyanobacteria.

Federal and state authorities continue to urge boaters and recreational users to exercise caution when enjoying Lake Shasta and to pay attention to caution sign postings throughout the popular recreation area.

A press release on this issue was distributed last week and can be found here.

To see an updated map of testing locations and concentrations, please visit a map here.

The concentration of the toxin is low and does not pose a threat to people swimming in the water. However, ingestion of algal material, scums and mats could be dangerous to people. Small animals such as dogs should be kept out of the water.

Lake Is Open for Public Use and Access

People are still encouraged to come to Lake Shasta and enjoy activities at the Lake. However, we recommend that water users exercise healthy habits when playing in waters that have identified cyanobacteria blooms. The <u>Statewide Guidance on Cyanobacteria and Harmful Algal Blooms</u> recommends a number of tips when entering waters impacted by cyanobacteria.

For more information, please visit:

California Department of Public Health:

http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/environhealth/water/Pages/Bluegreenalgae.aspx

California Water Quality Monitoring Council – Harmful Algal Bloom Portal: http://www.mywaterguality.ca.gov/habs/

State Water Resources Control Board - California CyanoHAB Network: http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/cyanohab_network/index.html

US Environmental Protection Agency: CyanoHAB website https://www.epa.gov/nutrient-policy-data/cyanohabs

US Environmental Protection Agency: Anatoxin-a report

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/anatoxin-a-report-2015.pdf



